

Docket No.: 025684.114-US00 (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Steve Sheppard et al.

2611

Application No.: 09/525,412

Group Art Unit: 2711

Filed: March 15, 2000

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MEDIA INTERFACE DEVICE

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

JAN 0 2 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

**Technology Center 2600** 

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the following items for filing in connection with the above-referenced Patent Application:

- 1. Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2. Form PTO-1449;
- 3. 16 cited documents; and
- 4. Return receipt postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to Deposit Account No. 50-0740, under Docket No. 025684.114-US00. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional

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extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0740.

Dated: December 28, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

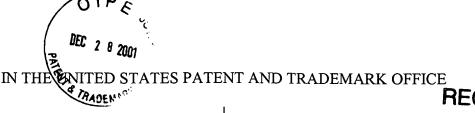
Registration No.: 46,278

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Attorneys for Applicant



In re application of:

SHEPPARD et al.

Appl. No.: 09/525,412

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Art Unit: 2711

**Technology Center 2600** 

Examiner: Unassigned

Atty. Docket: 025684.114-US00

## **Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.
- □ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
  - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
  - □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
  - □ c. Attached is our Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

- □ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our Check No.

  \_\_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).
  - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
  - □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- □ 4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.
- □ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- □ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- 7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/612,562, filed July 7, 2000, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present.

§ 1.98(d).

application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0740 referencing Docket No. 025684.114-US00.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry P. Ting (Reg. No. 46,278)

Date: <u>December 28, 2001</u>

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